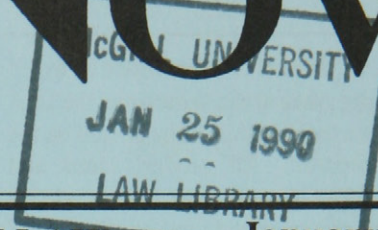


# Quid Novi



Vol. X, No. 16

McGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW  
UNIVERSITE MCGILL FACULTE DE DROIT

January 24, 1990  
le 24 janvier 1990

## Special Careers Day Issue

### Careers Day Information

Careers Day is Friday, January 26th.

Representatives from law firms and other organization will be setting up booths in the Common Room, the hallways of the first and second floors and in classrooms on the second floor. (Maps will be available from S.A.O. Friday morning indicating where each participant is located).

Students can circulate from 1:00 to 4:00. Brochures, relevant literature and application materials will be available and lawyers will be on hand to chat informally. We encourage all to come out, even those not applying for articling or summer positions this year.

You don't have to wear a suit or have your resumé ready. In fact, you don't even have to stop to talk to any of the representatives. But their brochures provide valuable information for that all-important decision of where to article (or spend the summer).

Students are invited to attend the reception for 4:00 to 7:00 in the Common Room. (If you are lucky, you may even be taken out to dinner by one of the firms.)

The Placement Office will have an up-to-date list of firms and organizations that will be participating. The Office may also have information about other firms or groups of interest. Please feel free to consult the Placement Officer during designated office hours. If you have any questions concerning the upcoming Careers Day, feel free to get in touch with anyone on the Careers Committee.

#### Participants:

Toronto - 27 firms, Montréal - 27 firms,  
Ottawa - 10 firms, Vancouver - 1 firm,  
Calgary - 1 firm.

#### Other Organizations -

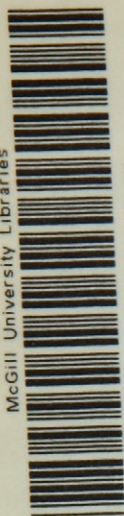
The Salvation Army  
Ontario Human Rights Commission  
Ministry of Financial Institutions (Ontario)  
Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario)  
Project Genesis  
National Association of Women in the Law  
Barreau du Québec  
Ministère de la Justice (Québec)  
Ministère de la Justice (Canada)  
Comité des ressources humaines (Québec)



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# Announcements

**Scheduling of Events** - In order to avoid events from taking place at the same time, the LSA is proposing a Master Schedule to be posted on the LSA Bulletin Board. All groups, clubs and professors are asked to post their events on this calendar so as to reduce scheduling conflicts. For info, contact Bram Freedman.

**Careers** - The Montreal law firm of **Clarkson Tétrault** will be conducting interviews at the Faculty on January 24 and 25. The firm is looking for summer students for 1991 and stagiaires for 1992 and the spring of 1993. Interested students must submit their resume and transcripts to the Admissions Office prior to 17:00 on Friday January 19, along with a telephone number where they can be reached.

**Second year students/Étudiants de 2<sup>ième</sup> année** - Les étudiants et étudiantes qui font leur avis juridique (legal memo) de deuxième année ce trimestre-ci sont priés de prendre note qu'ils recevront ce travail le lundi 5 février et qu'ils devront le remettre le jeudi 15 février. Second year students writing their legal memo this term will receive their problem on Monday, February 5th and will have to hand in their memo on Thursday, February 15.

**McGill Law Journal/Revue de droit de McGill** - The latest on linguistic security, discrimination law, medical consent, and political philosophy is at your fingertips in volume 34(4) of the McGill Law Journal.

Le numéro 34(4) contient également des articles sur la politique judiciaire, l'usage des terrains et la Charte, et sur la question des droits innommés dans la Charte. Les chroniques bibliographiques vous mettront au courant de l'anthropologie juridique, des droits fondamentaux et beaucoup plus!

Pick up your copy at Sadie's today!

**Attention career seekers** - Would the person(s) who took the public interest organization binder and copies of P. Hoffman's book from the Admissions office or the Placement office PLEASE RETURN THEM! Other people need these materials. P. Hoffman's book is expensive and will not be replaced. The public interest organization binder is very time consuming and expensive to reproduce. We don't care who you are - just return the stuff anonymously. Thank you. The Careers Committee.

**Grad Committee/Bal de Graduation** - The Graduation Committee is pleased to announce that the Graduation Ball will be held on May 3rd,

1990 at the Château Champlain. All are welcome to attend and tickets will cost \$40-45 per person, which includes dinner, wine and dancing. Tickets can be purchased in the Pit every Wednesday between 12 and 2 p.m. or from a third or fourth year class representative.

Le Comité du Bal est heureux d'annoncer que le bal de graduation aura lieu le 3 mai, 1990 au Château Champlain. Tous sont bienvenue. Le coût des billets est de \$40-\$45 par personne et inclut le repas, le vin et la danse. Les billets seront vendus dans le "pit" les mercredis entre 12h00 et 14h00 ou peuvent être achetés d'un représentant de 3<sup>e</sup> ou 4<sup>e</sup> année.

**Keeping an Eye on Moscow** - Next week: Andrei Sakharov, 1921-1989. Andrei Sakharov, winner of the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize and the foremost human rights activist in the Soviet Union, died last month in Moscow at the age of 68. Shakharov served as the voice of the people in the call for greater democratization and reform. Next week, the *Quid* will pay tribute to Sakharov at a time when the Soviet reform process is very fragile as ethnic tensions have reached an all time high in the republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan and the Baltic republics call for independence from Moscow.

**McGill Student Society** - Spring is around the corner and it's time to do the inevitable planning for next year at McGill. McGill Students' Society (SSMU) is looking for qualified enthusiastic people to fill positions in programming, committee representation and other activities.

Parmi les positions disponibles on retrouve le président d'élections, rédacteur-en-chef du guide étudiant, de Old McGill. Le comité judiciaire de SSMU doit être composé de 5 étudiants en droit de 3<sup>e</sup> ou 4<sup>e</sup> année.

I would encourage all those people interested in the Judicial Board and other SSMU positions to consult the LSA bulletin board.

Pour plus de renseignements ou pour une formule d'application, vous n'avez qu'à vous adresser au bureau de SSMU qui se trouve au Union Bldg sur McTavish ou à Ray Satterwaite, vice-président des affaires internes de SSMU au 398-6799.

**Annie MacDonald Langstaff Workshop** - The Women and the Law Association is pleased to announce that the next Workshop will take place on January 24, at 12:00 noon in Room 202. Professor Mary Jane Mossman of Osgoode Hall Law School will present a lecture entitled "Running Hard to Stand Still: A Feminist Perspective on Family Law Reform".

It will be recalled that Prof. Mossman was involved in a complaint filed with the Ontario Human Rights Board, alleging "systemic discrimination against women" at Osgoode Hall and York University. Although made Assistant Dean in 1983 and Associate Dean in 1986, Prof. Mossman was in 1987 passed over the Dean's position; Osgoode hired instead a candidate from outside the school. This past September the complaint was suspended in return for York University's pledge of \$1 million to improve the status of women at the school and on campus.

**The Tory, Tory, DesLauriers and Binnington McGill Summer Fellowship** was established in 1989 to promote legal research and writing within the Faculty of Law.

The Fellowship permits two students to spend one-half of the summer with Tory's in Toronto as part of the firm's summer student programme and the other half of the summer as research assistants within the Faculty. The students selected will be paid the regular Tory summer student salary while at the firm and at the law school. Students selected are expected, while at the law school to produce research work of quality in support of an ongoing project of a member of the academic staff.

Students interested in applying should write to:

Ms. Marie T. Huxter  
Student Programme Co-Ordinator  
Tory, Tory, DesLauriers & Binnington  
Barristers and Solicitors  
Suite 3200, IBM Tower  
Toronto-Dominion Centre  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5K 1N2

You should include a résumé as well as a copy of your undergraduate, graduate (if applicable), and law school transcripts.

If you wish to be considered, it will be necessary to attend an interview during the regularly scheduled summer student interview week which takes place during the week of February 19, 1990. These interviews for summer student positions in Metropolitan Toronto will be held during the week of February 19. Arrangements for interviews must not be made before 8:00 a.m. on February 9. Applications should be received no later than Thursday, February 1, 1990.

The Summer Fellowships students will be chosen in consultation with the Faculty. Students who

Cont'd on p.4



## Public Interest Groups: An Alternative Summer Job Experience

by Glen Grossman, BCL II

Last week I was approached by two members of the Careers Committee who asked me if I would be interested in writing an article about my summer job with Ralph Nader's Public Citizen in Washington, D.C. I accepted since there are many good things to say about the public interested field and Washington, D.C. if one is willing to work in an exciting atmosphere with little remuneration.

Having lived and worked in Washington for five years prior to coming to McGill, I was familiar with what the city had to offer. After my first year of law school, I was not interested in working for a law firm. I wanted to work in a political and legal atmosphere and that is when a friend of mine suggested that I apply to work at Public Citizen.

Public Citizen is a non-profit membership organization based in Washington, D.C., representing consumer interest through lobbying, litigation, research and publications. Since its founding by Ralph Nader in 1971, Public Citizen has fought for consumer rights in the market place, for safe products, for a healthy environment and work place, for clean and safe energy resources, and for corporate and government accountability.

Public Citizen is active in every Public Policy forum: the Congress, the courts, government agencies and the media. Public Citizen fights for citizen interest through five groups: CongressWatch, The Health Research Group, the Litigation Group, the Critical Mass Energy Project and Buyers Up. I worked for CongressWatch which monitors legislation on Capitol Hill, documents campaign financing abuses, tracks House and Senate voting records, and

lobbies for the Public Interest.

Most of the staff is made up of lawyers and lobbyists with administrative and/or government backgrounds. I worked for two of the lawyers on two major projects during the summer. One dealt with white collar crime and the effect of proposed new legislation dealing with this problem and the other covered the abuse of the Antitrust law in the insurance industry. As well, I had other small research projects to do throughout the summer.

Upon arrival in Washington I was fortunate to have some friends there so I did not have a problem with accommodation. Rent is expensive but not as expensive as Toronto or New York. Further, Washington offers a wide range of cultural and social activities. The Smithsonian Museums, which are free, and the night life of Georgetown can make your summer an informative and lively experience. As well, the Capitol Hill area where the office is located is always buzzing with activity.

If one is interested in working for one of Ralph Nader's groups, all that must be done is to send a resume and cover letter to the specific group that you wish to work for. Be prepared, if it is cash you are looking for, then you are in the wrong arena. I had two jobs during the summer so that I could pay my bills. Unfortunately, unlike many U.S. law schools, McGill is not part of any program which would give a stipend to students who wish to pursue a career in Public Interest. The other legal intern who I worked with from New York University was given a stipend from her school.

All in all, it was a rewarding experience to work with people who have a strong desire to help others before they help themselves.

## Placez vous!

Chaque année, la faculté, de pair avec le Comité carrières, organise une journée d'orientation professionnelle. Cette année, l'événement aura lieu le vendredi 26 janvier, de 13h00 à 17h00.

Le ton de cette journée est informel. Ce n'est pas un processus d'entrevues mais simplement l'occasion, pour vous, d'obtenir de l'information sur les possibilités et conditions d'emploi dans les secteurs privé et public. Des dépliants et formulaires d'emploi seront disponibles aux différents kiosques. Que vous prévoyiez ou non travailler dans le domaine du droit au cours de l'été qui vient, il sera sans doute utile et agréable d'examiner les options qui s'offrent à vous.

Un plan sera disponible, le jour-même, au SAO, pour vous aider à localiser les divers bureaux et organismes qui seront au 1er et 2e étages de la faculté et dans le Common Room. Pour ceux et celles qui désirent faire application pour un poste d'été ou un stage, nous vous encourageons aussi à consulter le bureau de placement.

Une réception suivra la journée, de 17h00 à 19h00. Le Comité carrières vous invite donc à venir lever votre verre à un brillant avenir!



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## Announcements...

### Cont'd from p.2

apply must be in their next-to-last year of law school (whether they are in the three or four year program).

**Rock for the Caribou:** On Thursday, Feb. 1st, LSR is sponsoring a Coffee house for Innu of Labrador who are mounting a legal challenge to Cruise missile overflights. Live entertainment, featuring the Cool Monsoons, Terence Tobin and friends, and Associate Dean Marty Boodman! There will be beer, wine and baked goods available as well as hot pizza! Come one, come all from 4 o'clock onwards into the night ...

**Native Law Conference** - will be taking place in the McGill Moot Court February 7-8. In order to reserve a seat, please register at S.A.O. There are two lists - one for the Robert S. Litvack Award and the other for the three panels taking place on Thursday.

The Conference is being organized by the the Student Committee for the Conference on Native

Peoples and the Law and InterAmicus. The group's priority has been to raise awareness of the problems facing Native Peoples in Canada. The Conference will introduce basic issues such as Natives and Justice, Aboriginal Title and Land Claims, and the question of Self-Determination.

Native representation is an essential aspect of the conference. As well as Native speakers on the panels, an Iroquois Thanksgiving address, a photography exhibit and live music will provide new insights into Native culture.

### Christmas Food Drive

We would like to thank the students, faculty and staff for their generous contributions to the Food Drive held at the end of last semester. Thanks to your overwhelming support, the Law Faculty donated \$394 to Sun Youth and Garde-Manger as well as a large box of food.

Thank you for helping to relieve some of the hardship of those in need during the holiday season.

Irene Wolfe and Robin Reid.

## Taxation - It did not influence me at all

### by Zino Macaluso, BCL III

Undertaking Taxation was an interesting experience to say the least. Professors Durnford and Minzberg attempted to instill in us the fundamental rules underlying Canadian taxation. My only criticism is that the course never really affected me. I applied the rules on the exam but I had trouble imagining how this could help me in everyday life. But, as tax class showed me, there are exceptions to every rule.

Why, just the other day, as I was rushing out of my self-contained domestic establishment which means a dwelling house, apartment or other similar place of residence in which place I, as a general rule, sleep and eat, and towards my motor vehicle which is designed or adapted primarily to carry individuals and their personal luggage and that has a seating capacity for not more than the driver and 8 persons, I realized I had locked my keys inside. I waited 3 hours for the locksmith. I was furious. You know, I'm not exactly rich. I had to get to the mom and pop Canadian-controlled

private corporation all or substantially of the fair market value of the assets of which at that time was attributable to the assets that were used in an active business, where I work -hopefully before they fired me.

Well, when the locksmith did show up, he could see I was quite agitated. I told him I had better things to do than to wait around for him and that this was no way to earn my salary, wages and other remuneration, including gratuities received by me in the year. Being an avid tax enthusiast (yes, this frightened me too!) the locksmith merely smiled and said that according to Day and Ross v. The Queen, my boss could write off my delay as a necessary expense in the day to day operation of his profession, calling, trade, manufacture or undertaking of any kind whatever - so my job would be waiting for me no matter how late I was!

So you see, in some small, insignificant way, Taxation class has affected the way I view the world.

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# Summering in a Toronto Law Firm

by Irene Wolfe, LLB III

The idea of leaping into your legal career by working in a law firm for the summer may not be appealing to everyone. But 'summering' in a large Toronto law firm can be a valuable experience. It is certainly helpful in making that all-important and inevitable decision of where to article (or not to article if the summer experience was not a pleasant one). In considering a position in the King and Bay jungle there are certain things to keep in mind.

## Application Process

The Law Society of Upper Canada has devised a rigid schedule for applying to most firms in Toronto. Resumes must be received by February 1. Note that lawyers receive hundreds of resumes and therefore do not appreciate those exceeding 3 pages in length with detailed descriptions of after-school jobs as paper boy or cashier. An unofficial transcript of your marks must be included.

If a firm is interested in giving you an interview, you will receive a telephone call on the morning of February 9 (starting at 8 a.m. until about 11 a.m.). Make sure you are home because each firm only has a limited amount of time slots in which to conduct interviews and it is always best to put your first choices at the beginning of the interview period, which runs from February 19 to 21.

When you are setting up interviews don't overextend yourself. Some keeners schedule twelve to fifteen interviews over two or three days and by the end of the first day are completely burned out and more importantly can't remember the different firms they have visited. Also keep in mind that if an interviewer is interested after the first meeting, he or she may try to set up another interview to introduce you to other lawyers and give you the opportunity to get a feel for the

place. If you are ocmpletely booked up and can't spare any more time the lawyer will figure you aren't particularly interested in the firm. My experience was that five or six interviews is very manageable. You don't feel as harried as your fellow student who has been to four interviews by 10 a.m. You will be a little more relaxed at your interview, you won't miss your next appointment. Although don't be surprised if your interviewer asks if you have to leave to get to your next interview. They understand the process all too well. However, your interviewer will appreciate it if you have been selective in the number of interviews you are attending and have more time to spend with the members of the firm.

## The Interview

Be relaxed! You will find that most interviews are not as expected. Questions such as 'Where do you see yourself in ten years' or 'what qualities would make you a valuable contribution to our organization' rarely figure in the process. In fact most of the time the lawyer will do the talking. The aim is to sell you on the firm. However, you should always be prepared with questions. It is important to do your homework before the interview. The brochures available on Careers Day will familiarize you with the firm and provide you with possible questions.

A technique often used is to have another member of the firm's student committee walk in during your interview. First, the firm wants as many lawyers as possible to meet each candidate. Second, interviewers like to watch candidates in action, adapting to new people and situations. So don't be surprised if there's some traffic during your interview. The interviewer may also decide to walk you around the firm. If you express an interest in a particular area of the law, you will undoubtedly be

introduced to lawyers working in that field or department.

At the end of each day of interviewing, the committee will get together to discuss the students they have met. They may decide they would like to see you again. For that reason you should arrange some way of receiving messages at the number you have given out, if you will not be there after about 7:00 p.m.

Chances are you won't be home around 7:00 p.m. because you will be doing the 'cocktail circuit'. Each firm will have planned some sort of get together (you know the type where everyone wears a name tag that reads HELLO, MY NAME IS...). If you are remotely interested in the firm, attend the function. By not doing so you are sending out the signal that you aren't that keen about the firm. How will they know you weren't there? They use the ingenious method of collecting up the name tags not picked up and making note of the names. This may seem like an unfair practice but when you are interviewing 75 to 100 students, every factor is taken into account. The firm wants to hire students that are sincerely interested in **them** and not just in finding a job.

## Making the choice

If you are lucky enough to attract more than one firm, you will have a decision to make. Although firms may drop hints about their interest in you, according to the rules of the Law Society, they cannot make you a formal offer before Wednesday, February 21 at 4 p.m. If a firm calls at that time, generally you have 24 hours to make your decision. However, if your first choice calls, you would do well to accept on the spot.

In making your decision you may want to consider whether you have an interest in articling there because generally summer

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## DO THE RIGHT THING: Work for a Prof this Summer!

by George J. Ahtipis, BCL III

Hey Mook, how come there's no pictures of Dryden on the library walls? That's exactly what I was thinking as I sat day-dreaming from my sixth floor, air-conditioned office in New Chancellor Day Hall. From the corner of my eye, I could see Maco, BCL IV, tossing a frisbee to another unnamed research assistant. You see, their professors were away for the week. No, no, no, I'm just kidding. Working for a Prof is not like that at all (snicker).

But, since you asked, I'll tell ya what it's really like.

### The Workload

Depending on your Professor, the workload is anywhere from reasonable to really, really reasonable. Judging from

my experience, it is that much easier if you are interested in the subject-matter being researched, but not necessarily.

In terms of hours, you're looking at 40 hours a week, max (and I mean max). Weekends are completely yours as there are no clients or lawyers pressuring you about deadlines. The projects are usually longer-term, such as editing and updating casebooks or preparing academic work for publication.

### The Prerequisites

There are none. Really. Besides your basic two R's, all one needs is a will to learn the library. This can be done in a very short period of time and it really comes in handy when the time comes to fulfill your writing requirement. First, after working for a Prof your research time is reduced considerably and second,

chances are that you will convert your research from the previous summer into a term essay for 3 credits. Pretty neat, eh?

### The Perquisites

There are many, but mentioning them here could be rather troublesome and prejudicial to the author. Rest assured, however, that Profs are flexible, approachable, understanding, kind, forgiving... Honestly though, the hours are flexible in that one may arrange the 40 hours in the manner that best suits your summer lifestyle. The important thing to remember is that the recording of one's hours is based on an honour system and I would be shocked to learn of someone abusing this privilege.

Also, leaving at 5:00 p.m. is awesome. What it means basically is that you

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## To specialize or not to specialize, that is the question!

by Marie Lussier, LLB III

Last summer, I worked in an Intellectual property law firm in Toronto. Although many students hesitate to spend the summer or to article at a firm which does work in only one area of the law, I feel that this allowed me to gain invaluable experience.

Intellectual property law involves the protection and exploitation of innovations in science, technology and the arts and of the distinctive features of someone's business. The main areas of IP are patents, trademarks and copyright. Although this type of law is a specialty, there is a great variety of work within the field. Inventions are all different one from the next and it is amazing to be paid to keep abreast of developments at the forefront of technology. As well, a lot of the work done in IP is for high-profile clients, such as motion picture studios,

rock stars, designers and sports franchises. Since IP rights are worldwide, there is a strong international aspect to the practice. At the firm where I was, 60% of the work was done for Canadians, 25% for U.S. residents and 15% for clients in other countries, mostly Germany, Japan and the U.K. This is not to say that you will be meeting with Calvin Klein or flying to Europe and Asia every day, but the practice of IP law, unlike what some may believe, is far from routine.

In Canada, about 300 to 400 lawyers practice in this area, mostly in private firms. Although some companies have small patent departments, less than 5% of the profession works for companies. Most of the firms which do IP work restrict their practice to this area, although some large corporate firms have IP departments. Probably more than 90% of the Canadian firms in this

field are in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, and the trend is toward Toronto as the main centre for IP work.

The best way to begin in the profession is as a summer student or an articling student. Generally, if you do not specialize at the articling stage, it will be very difficult for you to do so later on. An articling experience with a general law firm is of little value to an IP firm, whereas training in IP law can easily open the door to work in a general corporate firm.

Intellectual property work involves a steep learning curve and firms usually organize various educational programs, to allow senior lawyers to pass on their knowledge to junior lawyers and students. At the firm where I worked, sessions were held over lunch (provided by the firm). The atmosphere at these

Cont'd on p.9



### Toronto...

#### Cont'd from p.5

students are automatically offered articling positions before the deadline for the submission of articling applications. This would allow you to avoid the entire articling interview process.

#### The follow up

It is wise to write a short note to the firms whose offers you rejected. You never know how your summer will turn out and you may decide to apply for articles with such a firm.

#### The job

Most firms give you a choice of working in one or two of their departments. Choose the department that appeals to you, not the one you think will impress the student committee. The summer is the best time to figure out where your interest lies.

The work may at times be demanding but

often you will be able to just tag along with a lawyer and simply watch him or her in action. I was fortunate in that I was invited to sit in on examinations for discovery, trials and interviews with clients. As an articling student you will never get the chance to be just an observer. There will inevitably be work involved.

Although the work can get tedious (summarizing transcripts from examinations for discovery, looking up and photocopying all of the cases cited in a factum) overall the work is stimulating and rewarding. In addition, the firm where I worked had an extensive education programme. Regular after work sessions were held to explore different current legal issues or general areas of law.

#### The perks

By now it is common knowledge that most firms plan fabulous summer events

to demonstrate to their students that their's is not an 'all work and no play' environment. The generosity in food and drink was extensive. The firm where I worked had a boat cruise for the entire firm, a white-water rafting expedition and a day at Wonderland for the summer students only. In addition, every Friday afternoon an informal get together was held at various 'drinking holes' in the downtown core. Fitness-minded individuals take note: many firms provide free memberships to downtown athletic centres.

Speaking personally, I had a rewarding summer. It determined for me the more difficult decision of where to article. Your experience may or may not be satisfying but in either case it will provide you with an excellent introduction into the practice of law in a Toronto firm.

Good luck and may your briefcase always be filled with interesting memos!!

## Coin des *SPORTS* Corner

Welcome back, everyone, and welcome to the '90s - the decade of maximum pumpitude.

First, let me recap some highlights of this year's massively successful Law Games which took place January 3-6 at l'Université de Montréal. The McGill contingent supplied an awesome core of over 100 athletes to the Games. We kicked some serious butt all over the place; reaching the semifinals in Basketball, Soccer, Darts, Men's Hockey, the Finals in Volleyball, Men's and Women's Squash and Football and Winning outright the Ball Hockey, Women's Badminton, and Track and Field trophies.

Some classic moments in sports: A. Fata's perfect serving (11 straight points) to lift the squad into the finals. J. Neatby's end-to-end touchdown run in the snow-encrusted SuperBowl (thanks

in part to a nifty flag tuck). C. Arsenault's romp over all his opponents in Squash and K. Lannan's supreme power in Badminton. J. Adolphe's two free-throws with six seconds left to lift the squad into the semis with a narrow one-point win. E. Mourillon's steroid-free super speed, leading a strong team of 8 runner to the top 4 spots in the men's 50, 1st and 2nd place in the realys and 3rd in womens' 50 - a veritable dynasty. The entire disciplined Ball Hockey team who won a hard-fought tournament, all the more sweet as the final was won over the unfriendly Osgoode players.

Very special thanks and recognition goes to Arnold Bornstein - a tenacious Ball Hockey player - for designing the Law Games T-shirt. Arnold is in LLB II.

The parties were great, the spirit was high and our Boat Racing team was fast. The final soirée - banquet at the Hotel

Bonaventure - was a classy finale to the well-run, amicably-hosted hands. Next year's Law Games will be hosted by the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. Stay tuned for announcements early next year from the next Sports Coordinator and her/his committee. Hopefully there will still be trains running West so that we may enjoy a wild 'train walk' à la Smoothy et Gordo.

1990 intramurals are underway. So far Rob M.'s ball hockey team is the first to report a victory - 5-1 over weak and faltering opponents. It pays to be a brute!

A very special to the members of the Sports Committee for all their hours of hardwork.

A weight room report is imminent. Work hard. Play easy. B. Goode.

Jordo.



**Do the right thing...****Cont'd from p.6**

always get a great seat at the bar for happy-hour or, alternatively, you can usually catch the "Cosby Show" before supper (the latter is optional; see the next section).

**The Compensation**

The theme of these positions is that one should not be spoiled too early in one's legal career. Students who live alone should sublet their apartments on weekends and sleep in the lounge (think of it, giant screen television, pinball, video games, a corduroy sofa; does it get any better?) Also, the entertainment budget is probably more than enough than you need to see a movie (on Tuesday, alone, with Steinberg cola and popcorn) at a Cineplex Odeon theater.

In my case, and this is not the norm, there were the occasional lunches with the Professor at the Faculty Club and once at the Mount Stephen Club. These were probably recognition for the quality of my work or, for those of you who know me, for my humble disposition in the workplace.

In hard cash terms, you're looking at about \$200 a week unless one gets a hold of the exceptional \$9.00/hour positions that are usually short term.

**The Conclusion**

Overall, it's not a bad little package. On a good day, I would recommend it as an intermediate step on your way to summer positions at a law firm. The key to finding a good "Prof-job" is to approach the Professor of your choice now and inquire about any possible openings for the summer. In any case, whatever you do, always remember, do the right thing.



# *Le droit en bermudas*

par Véronique Bélanger, BCL III

On m'a demandé, dans le cadre de la série d'articles sur les carrières, de vous parler de mon expérience à la Clinique d'aide juridique de McGill. Je suis presque décue de n'avoir, contrairement à certains de mes collègues qui ont fait l'apprentissage du dur métier d'étudiant(e) dans un grand cabinet, aucune histoire d'horreur à vous raconter.

Si vous cherchez un emploi d'été en droit qui vous permette d'avoir une grande flexibilité tant au niveau de l'horaire qu'au niveau des domaines dans lesquels vous voulez travailler, un poste de directeur(trice) à la clinique comblera tous vos besoins (avec en prime la permission de porter vos bermudas!).

Les entrevues ont lieu à la faculté vers la fin février ou le début mars. Il suffit d'avoir travaillé comme bénévole à la clinique pendant une année pour être éligible. Les directeurs(trices) choisi(e)s restent en poste du 1er mai au 30 avril de l'année suivante. Pendant l'été, la rémunération est équivalente au salaire minimum, plus 25%. Pendant l'année scolaire, les directeur(trice)s reçoivent une allocation de \$25 par semaine pour couvrir leurs dépenses. En plus, la faculté leur alloue trois crédits dans la mesure où chaque directeur(trice) effectue cent heures de travail de nature juridique. Jusqu'à cette année, la faculté allouait un maximum de 3 crédits aux directeur(trice)s de la clinique, alors que les étudiants qui travaillaient dans une clinique à l'extérieur pouvaient obtenir jusqu'à 6 crédits. Il semble bien que pour l'année prochaine, tou(te)s les étudiant(e)s soient limité(e)s à trois crédits.

L'an dernier, notre terme a commencé au tout début mai. Nous nous sommes

partagé les fonctions principales reliées au fonctionnement de la clinique selon nos goûts et nos aptitudes respectifs. J'ai hérité du programme de représentation étudiante; ma tâche consistait à représenter les étudiants qui devaient passer devant le comité de discipline de l'université ou qui voulaient porter un grief contre leur faculté. Comme il y a un bon nombre de cas chaque année, je devais aussi former un groupe d'étudiants de notre faculté qui prendraient la relève pendant l'année scolaire. Les autres fonctions à partager étaient les suivantes: la direction exécutive de clinique, l'informatisation, la mise à jour des pamphlets et de la législation, l'émission de radio à l'antenne de CKUT, la réaction d'un manuel pour les bénévoles, et l'incorporation de la clinique.

En plus de ces tâches spécifiques, nous nous sommes partagé les heures de permanence à la clinique. L'été, la clinique est ouverte de 10h à 16h. Chacun de nous devait passer 3 journées complètes à la clinique. Les deux autres journées servaient à la recherche et aux fonctions spécifiques. Nous nous sommes aussi occupé de différents dossiers qui se sont développés au cours de l'été. Ainsi, nous avons mis sur pied, à la suite du massacre de la place Tien'Anmen, un service d'aide aux étudiants chinois désirant demander le statut de résident permanent. Il a fallu aussi entamer des négociations avec l'association étudiante de McGill en vue de signer une entente sur des questions comme l'espace alloué à la clinique et le coût du loyer.

Voilà en gros comment s'est déroulé notre été. Je ne peux qu'encourager ceux qui s'y intéressent à poser leur candidature; où donc pourriez-vous trouver un emploi aussi utile, enrichissant et, surtout, agréable?



# From Hedonism to Hades and Back Again

by Michael B. Kleinman, B.C.L. II

Most of you are probably still chuckling over some of the uproariously funny material that appeared in the 'Hedonism' issue of the *Quid* last November. Remember? It was printed on green paper and cajoled us into a happy mood for a few fleeting moments before exams took over.

Practically as soon as our collective New Year's Hangover had ebbed, a new semester dawned and The Grind commenced anew. The refreshing optimism accompanying a new year is all too short-lived around here. Indeed, there seems to be a pervasive case of PMS — Post-Marks Syndrome — infecting our halls. Many of us, I would think, are likely just a little pissed off with at least one mark in at least one course. It is just too bad that it is practically taboo to talk about it!

Gone are the days of curious and naive adolescence where it was 'OK' to roam the high school halls after report card time, asking, "Whaddidya get in Bio?" or bitching about an 86 percent in English Lit because you "deserved like a 90 furshurr." To those days we can only look back, I fear, with nostalgia (Cotlerism, sorry).

As the years, tears, university degrees and grey hairs begin to add up, we graduate, unavoidably, into the 'mature' world of euphemism and politesse. Thus, we resort to comments like, "I trust you were satisfied with your ..." or "I hope there were no bad surprises ..." - only to be answered with a shrug, a nod, a smile (rarely) or, even better, "So, how 'bout those Expos!" (a personal favourite).

I went to look at my marks on the

Saturday afternoon after they were posted, not that you care ... the wind was bitterly cold, the sun blinding. As I stepped into that over-heated, under-lit lobby of ours, I felt as if I had entered some deserted shrine, erected many years ago on a shoe-string budget for seemingly sinister reasons. The only sounds which my heartbeat and footsteps could not mask were the wind howling outside and the porter snoring at his desk. I descended the staircase as if I had just been told to "walk the plank" and, completely alone, walked gingerly into The Room. The dizzying array of numbers and letters seemed a crude and perverse memorial, erected to honour the many victims of a catastrophe which I, at least until that moment, had survived.

The silence was almost deafening. I stared at the wall overwhelmed, my hands trembling ever so slightly, my heart pounding, my eyes darting crazily to and fro, trying to locate my three-digit namesake. The ordeal was over quickly and painfully — I had only four marks to check. I discovered, however (for the umpteenth time in my 'academic' career) that marks are terribly obstinate creatures; the more I willed them to go up, the harder they laughed defiantly — shor as molasses' sweet they wasn't goin' nowhere.

My trance was shattered by the sound of approaching footsteps. Quickly, in a desperate attempt to avoid any conversation about my 'performance', I darted from the room, suddenly aware of my acute need for a box or two of kleenex. I returned home from my pilgrimage to this hall of fame (and not so fame) and calculated how much cash I would need for this term's books. I tried to convince myself how meaningless marks really were in the Long Run. Then, like a strong, powerful grizzly bear

(mmmmph) preparing for a long, cold winter of hibernation, I fell asleep, only to await the thaw of spring and the next 'Hedonism' issue of the *Quid*.

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Specializing...  
Cont'd from p.6

meetings was informal, and each dealt with a particular topic within trademark or patent law. Furthermore, at the firm's monthly meeting, lawyers discussed new developments in the law or particular cases with which they were involved. As a summer student, a lot of the work given to me involved research of more or less broad areas of the law. I helped two lawyers prepare talks to be given in the fall, and I updated monographs sent to clients, detailing their IP rights and informing them of recent developments in the law. I also had the chance to acquaint myself with certain files and to follow their progress.

IP work allows you to apply general legal notions to practical problems. As well, it allows you to combine knowledge in non-legal areas with your legal practice and to work alongside people with diverse backgrounds. For example, my particular interest is biotechnology, but I found myself working with people with degrees in engineering, music, fine arts and literature. A significant advantage, for me, of working in an IP firm is its relatively small size. The firm where I worked was the second largest IP firm in Canada, yet involved less than forty lawyers. It was possible for me to get to know most of the people in the firm quite well and I was surprised to find everyone to be very approachable.

It is very satisfying to gain in-depth knowledge of one area of the law and specializing is something which students should consider for it is a decision which must be made early in one's legal career. As an added bonus, you soon discover that 'everybody's an inventor' and your IP skills will make you an instant hit at cocktail parties!



# WANTED: A BETTER HIRING PROCESS IN MONTREAL

by Evelyn Jerassy BCL III, Pierre Larouche LLB IV, Ricky Black BCLII

In case you haven't noticed, this is interviewing season at many law firms. Now you know why many of your friends are walking around wearing suits and looking quite grim! The hiring and recruiting experience is a confusing and trying one for many law students, and thus it is both important and desirable that the process function as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Currently, chronic problems plague the hiring procedures in Montreal. The present system is devoid of any guidelines or rules and the various law firms are effectively engaged in a free-for-all competition for students' services.

Increasingly, students are being recruited after having completed less than a full year of law school. This tactic has the effect of causing much tension among students, many of whom have not yet had a chance to adapt to law school.

Both law firms and students are unhappy with the present system (or lack thereof). The firms claim that in order to remain competitive, early recruiting is a necessary evil. Such practices, however, often mean that there is little in the way of hard data by which to measure candidates. In contrast to the situation in Ontario, where law firms are limited to an annual recruiting period of 1-2 weeks, many Montreal firms are forced to interview year-round. This results in the poor use of time and energy for the firms.

Likewise, students are also unsatisfied with the present system. For example, students are often unable to know the full range of options available to them. Given a week or two within which to respond to a job offer, many students feel pressured to accept an early offer, despite the fact that they have yet to interview with, or hear back from other firms. This can lead to the unfortunate

result of a student foregoing a potential offer from another firm he or she is waiting to hear back from for the simple reason that the student is unwilling to risk losing the first offer. Surely, students should have the benefit of considering all available options before making such an important career decision.

For those of you who don't know, C.A.D.E.D. is a body which represents the students of all civil law universities in Canada; including University of Laval, University of Montreal, McGill University, University of Ottawa, and University of Sherbrooke. In May 1989, C.A.D.E.D. invited the twenty largest Montreal law firms to a meeting in order to open a dialogue on how to alleviate the current problems facing hiring and recruiting procedures. C.A.D.E.D.'s chief goal was to persuade the firms to adopt what is known as a "matching system". Matching systems are currently in force only in British Columbia and Ontario and work as follows:

- interviews take place within a fixed period of 1-2 weeks.

- At the end of the interview period, firms compile a list of students that they are willing to hire, in order of preference. In turn, students prepare their own list ranking firms where they are willing to work.

- A computer then matches both parties.

Apart from being better organized, a matching system allows law firms to limit their hiring efforts to 1-2 weeks per year, and firms can interview applicants content in the knowledge that other law firms are all bound by the same regulations. Thus, everyone is on equal footing. Law students likewise benefit from a matching system as they receive all offers at the same time, and therefore are able to choose amongst all available offers, rather than feeling pressured to

accept an early offer with a strict deadline.

Unfortunately, after two meetings with the Montreal law firms, it was apparent that they were unwilling, at this point in time, to accept the matching system in its entirety. Rather, a compromise solution was reached. These Montreal law firms agreed to respect the following schedule for interviews and employment offers provided that the Montreal Bar agrees to supervise the process:

- No appointment for an interview is scheduled before the 1st of January and all *curriculum vitae* received before the 1st of February will be treated equally.

- All interviews will take place between the 1st and the 23rd of February.

- No offers from law firms can be sent out before the 22nd of February.

- Each offer must be kept open for at least 7 days after it has been received.

C.A.D.E.D. has sent out letters to over sixty Montreal law firms asking that they support C.A.D.E.D. in this endeavour and sign enclosed forms to that effect. Once all the forms have been sent back, representatives from C.A.D.E.D. and Montreal law firms will approach the Montreal Bar in hopes of obtaining both their co-operation and participation. While this compromise is not a perfect solution, it is a step in the right direction towards organizing and regulating the Montreal hiring process. This should result in advantages and benefits to all concerned.





# On Her Majesty's Service: Working for the Crown

by Colin Chang, B.C.L. III

The New Lexicon Webster's Dictionary of the English Language defines the word "sinecure" as "a position offering profit or honour but carrying few or no duties". Perhaps you have encountered this word on the LSAT exam. As young struggling lawyers, you are not likely to encounter the word anywhere else - unless you spend a summer at the Crown Prosecutor's Office. I found myself gainfully employed as a "recherchiste" at the provincial Crown Prosecutor's Office at the Palais de Justice in Montreal, and, though the position was not fully a sinecure, it came rather close.

Bear in mind from the start that the Crown is not a law firm, despite the fact that there are over a hundred lawyers who regularly take coffee breaks there. The office really has a dual professional character: on the one hand it is an office full of lawyers (which is always unsettling even in the best of circumstances); and, on the other hand, it is a bureaucracy, in the fullest sense of the term. Lawyers are generally lousy judges of time; bureaucrats exist in a permanent state of time dilation that would do Einstein proud. The result of this symbiosis is what one might refer to as an "ad hococracy" (I use poetic licence here since the English language is never on top of things).

Generally speaking, I found life at the Crown Prosecutor's Office very agreeable, my job consisted of doing legal research and ranged from the utterly banal (finding citations for a list of 400 cases) to the truly fascinating (investigating substantive legal problems and assisting in a jury trial). Interesting and substantive legal questions came my way for the simple reason that the lawyers, who typically dealt with dozens of dossiers each day,

had neither the time nor the inclination to spend a few hours researching a single problem. In fact, some of the articling students at the Crown told me that they had not opened a case reporter in months. I also contributed much of my time to an ongoing research project on the treatment of victims in Canadian criminal law. By far my most odious task, which usually involved about three to five hours each week, was to investigate and enforce victim's compensation. Often, a judge would sentence a convicted felon to repay the victim within a certain delay. I was charged with telephoning victims and inquiring as to whether they had been paid. This was always unpleasant work, particularly when victims, who depended on the anticipated compensation found out that there was no reliable compensation scheme in place and that it was simply impossible to guarantee payment (all of which, when roughly paraphrased, meant that victim's compensation was not on anybody's list of priorities). Try telling a widowed pensioner living under the poverty line that she may never get her \$400 back.

The main benefit of working for the Crown was that the research was generally stimulating and meaningful. I also had a bird's eye view of day-to-day criminal law in action, and, to say the least, it is a disturbing picture. It is indeed discouraging to know that of the dozens of files I dealt with, not one belonged to a person who was not a repeat offender.

The downside of my experience was the ad hoc, haphazard, do-it-when-ever character of the Crown itself. I had plenty of spare time; keeping myself occupied for eight hours each day was the second-most daunting challenge I faced. The first, however, was dealing with the various bureaucracies at the Palais de Justice. Requesting a file was an exercise

in time-consuming frustration, and, if ever there was a problem, there seemed virtually no hope of getting to the bottom of it. I finally succumbed to the tired-and-true technique of passing on the problem to someone else (like the good little bureaucrat that I eventually became).

Actually, if you have any interest in a career in criminal law, you should seriously consider at least articling for the Crown. The articling students get considerable in-court practical experience. After a brief orientation period, they are called upon to represent the Crown at preliminary inquiries. I know of no other articling students who spend as much time and do as much in court as the ones at the Crown. I am told, furthermore, that such an experience is eminently marketable should you decide that representing the defence is more to your liking. From that standpoint, it is perhaps an option worth considering.

## NOTES



# McGill Law School v. Boulet, (1990) 91 C.C.C. 67

by William Boulet, BCL III

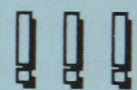
I think McGill Law School is gunning for me. Oh, I don't flatter myself that I pose a threat to their reputation as the most rigorous law school in Canada. I'm not about to expose the myth that you can't get straight A's in Chancellor Day Hall. Their reputation is safe with me. Nor can I believe that they want to keep me around any longer than they absolutely have to. I mean, no one has ever had the kindness to suggest that I was indispensable to the Advancement of Learning, be it legal or otherwise. But they won't let me graduate. They're gunning for me.

A case in point: when I chose my courses back in June of '89, I registered for **Securities Regulations**, whereupon the Professor promptly took off for Australia. Now, I'm not suggesting that I am the sole reason for this somewhat desperate ploy, but it makes you wonder. After all, Halifax would have done just as well, I'm sure. Then, when I registered for **Advanced Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure**, both Professors were appointed to the Quebec Court of Appeal. **BOTH!** One, okay. It happens

often enough (though probably not enough from a professor's point of view). But both? Is the Court of Appeal in such dire need of criminal experts all of a sudden that it should wantonly gut a poor student's schedule? As a rule I'm not an ardent proponent of any conspiracy theory but you don't need a course in **Environment and the Law** to smell a rat. And that's not all! When I decided to take French **Public International Law**, the Professor decided to cancel the course. He, at least, is still around. I can only conjecture that things are a bit tight on the Queen's Bench at the moment or that Australia is beginning to lose its appeal. Be that as it may, my schedule was shot - and my confidence shaken. The choice was either to fill in the gaps with such last-ditch courses as **Contemporary Ethiopian Matrimonial Law** or **Government Control of Collective Farming in Northern Alberta under the Manning Administration**, or else write enough sixty-page essays to offset paper expenses against my income for the next seven years.

Now, I'm as flexible as the next guy but I'm not a contortionist. So it was back to

the mind-boggling task of finding five courses that (a) fulfill all obligatory and semi-obligatory course requirements, including credit weight, prerequisites, streaming, enrolment limitations and sequencing; (b) are not taught before 7 in the morning or after 10 at night; (c) do not conflict with all other courses at any given time; (d) will not make your exam schedule look like the Siege of Leningrad; and (e) will present enough of an interest level to keep you from slashing away at your wrists in the classroom. The challenge alone would keep Einstein in calculations for the rest of relativity. But I almost made it. I **ALMOST MADE IT!** After seven days and seven nights I finally succeeded in narrowing it down to one elusive course. The up side was that **THIS** course was exciting. It was relevant and, what's more, it was taught by a vibrant and knowledgeable Professor. The down side was that it could only be given in one specific classroom and nowhere else. So it came as no surprise when they burnt down the Department.



## Coming Soon to a Moot Court Near You - The Dean's Hot Seat!

Get your question ready, for on February 7 at 1:00 p.m. Dean Morissette will be available to answer questions from interested students. Please note that some of your questions may require some research. To ensure a satisfactory answer, please submit your question in writing at least 48 hours in advance to Anthony Fata or leave it in his box in the L.S.A. office. More details will be forthcoming.

## Attention First Year Students: Careers Day is for You Too!

Many first year students don't come to Careers Day because they aren't yet in the market for a job. However, this day isn't only for job hunting and probably is best seen as an opportunity to get information in anticipation of future job hunts. For example:

- talk to practitioners about areas of practice
- get advice on course selections
- pick up brochures from different potential employers

Please don't be intimidated by what might seem to be a 'meat market' atmosphere. The goal of this day is to benefit students so you should try to get the most out of it. And remember, you don't need to get 'dressed up' and don't bring a c.v.!